

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

ITC-01 /060 W

-----150950Z 074553 /13

R 150811Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0260

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USEEC

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: ITALIAN-JAPANESE TRADE DISPUTE

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS INDICATED THAT JAPAN AND ITALY HAVE BEEN SQUABBLING FOR LAST SEVERAL WEEKS OVER TRADE PROBLEM. ITALIANS CLAIM THAT JAPANESE HAVE APPLIED PRESSURE ON THEIR IMPORTERS TO REDUCE PURCHASES OF ITALIAN SKI BOOTS. AFTER FAILURE TO OBTAIN SATISFACTION FROM GOJ, ITALIANS REPORTEDLY ARE LIMITING IMPORTS OF MOTORCYCLES AND STEREO EQUIPMENT FROM JAPAN.

2. MISSION ASKED RELIABLE COMMISSION OFFICIAL (BESELER OF DG-I) WHAT WERE FACTS AND PRESENT STATUS OF THIS DISPUTE. ACCORDING TO BESELER, ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT IS "REVOKING LIBERALIZATION" ON JAPANESE PRODUCTS IN QUESTION BUT HAS PUBLISHED NO DECREES OR REGULATIONS IMPOSING IMPORT LICENSING OR ANY OTHER RESTRICTIVE SYSTEMS. IN POINT OF FACT, ITALIAN

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GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE NO AUTHORITY, UNDER PROVISIONS OF TREATY OF ROME, TO DO SO. ALTHOUGH NORMAL COMMISSION REACTION TO SUCH IRREGULAR STEPS BY A MEMBER STATE WOULD BE TO PROTEST AND PROCEED LEGALLY THROUGH COURT OF JUSTICE, COMMISSION IS SYMPATHETIC TO ITALIAN CHARGE AND PREFERS TO GET MORE INFORMATION FROM JAPANESE BEFORE ACTING.

3. BESELER INDICATES THAT JAPANESE HAVE COMPLAINED REPEATEDLY ABOUT ITALIAN MEASURES BUT HAVE STOPPED SHORT OF FORMAL DENIAL THAT THERE IS SOME SORT OF SELF RESTRAINT LIMITATION CURRENTLY IN EFFECT ON SKI BOOTS.

4. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT, ALTHOUGH RELATIVELY MINOR, CAN ONLY EXACERBATE MEMBER STATE CONCERNS OVER DEALING WITH THE JAPANESE ON TRADE ISSUES. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE FEELING AMONG MEMBER STATES THAT JAPANESE ARE ONLY WILLING TO TALK ABOUT TRADE IMBALANCE BUT ARE NOT READY TO MAKE A REAL EFFORT TO OPEN UP JAPANESE MARKET. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE06095
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2148448
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN-JAPANESE TRADE DISPUTE
TAGS: ETRD, IT, JA, EEC
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